

## STANFORD

### Bedia to speak and answer questions about art, in Spanish and English sessions

Artist José Bedia, whose work is featured at an exhibit at Stanford University's Cantor Center for the Visual Arts, will speak and answer questions about his art Saturday afternoon, with a session for Spanish speakers at 1 p.m. and another in English at 3 p.m.

The exhibit, which includes a 25-foot mural Bedia painted earlier this week and nine smaller paintings, is titled "Nsila-El Camino: José Bedia and the Spirit's Path in African Art." Bedia has studied African religions and art for more than 20 years. Through his art, he endeavors to show the meanings of symbolic figures -- not just their forms.

Both talks will be at the Cantor Center, at Lomita Drive and Museum Way on the Stanford campus. The museum is open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday to Sunday and 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursdays. Admission is free. The exhibition, funded by the Halperin Exhibitions Fund, will run through April 20.

## SAN MATEO COUNTY

### Sign-ups being taken for Citizens Academy

San Mateo County is accepting applications for its Citizens Academy, a 12-week program that lets people who live or work in the county get better acquainted with county services and departments.

The program will meet on Tuesday nights, generally from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., beginning Feb. 4. Locations will vary. Participants will learn about criminal justice, health services and the budget process, among other topics.

To sign up, visit [www.co.sanmateo.ca.us](http://www.co.sanmateo.ca.us) and click on Board of Supervisors. Then click on Citizen's Academy. For more information, call (650) 363-4129.

## LOS ALTOS

### Congressman to speak to Democratic Coalition

Rep. Mike Honda, D-San Jose, will be the guest speaker Saturday in Los Altos at a luncheon sponsored by the Peninsula Democratic Coalition.

The luncheon will take place at Chef Chu's Restaurant located at San Antonio Road and El Camino Real. The cost of the luncheon is \$17, and reservations are required.

Call (650) 949-1009 to make a reservation and for more information.

## SAN FRANCISCO

**Runner passes torch for patriotic flag duty**

The daily patriotic flag run across the Golden Gate Bridge has been passed.

On Wednesday, Jeffrey Orth, 53, clad in his trademark red, white and blue outfit, stood at the span with Sausalito tennis pro Rob Peterson, who is taking over the flag-bearing duties for a year.

Orth gave up the daily runs in July, noting he was under a lot of pressure to appear every day and he was getting too much attention from the media and the public.

He said he still plans to appear on the span on the 11th day of every month.

``I'm thrilled to know Rob's made the commitment to do this on a daily basis in inclement weather or fair," Orth said. ``It's not easy."

Peterson, 41, said he will vary his runs between the morning and afternoon commutes, but said he would be out seven days a week for at least a year, rain or shine.

``I can't let Jeffrey down," said Peterson, who contacted Orth about taking over in part to continue training to try and qualify for the Association of Tennis Professionals' Tour.

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